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LEEK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

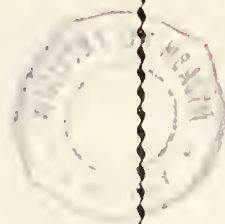
of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year 1960



December 1961

Hill Bros. (Leek) Ltd., Haywood Street, Leek.



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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE 1960

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR C. R. HEWLETT

Vice-Chairman:

COUNCILLOR H. HAMMOND

Members:

Councillor	J. T. Barks	Councillor	H. Mear
"	G. Biddle	"	A. Mellor
"	C. R. Critchlow	"	T. Riley
"	J. L. Findlow	"	A. M. Robinson
"	H. Ford	"	Mrs. M. Robson
"	R. G. Grindon	"	G. Shufflebotham
"	W. Hancock	"	Mrs. G. Sigley
"	J. Harrison	"	P. Smith (Died Oct. 1960)
"	J. W. Heothcote	"	J. G. Stubbs
"	S. E. Hulme	"	A. E. Wood (Died Nov 1960)
"	H. James		
"	J. Marshall		

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health:

H. KELSO WATSON, M.B., Ch.B.

Public Health Inspector

D. K. PEDLEY, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Certified Food Inspector

Additional Public Health Inspector:

T. SPENCER, Cert. R.S.I.

OFFICES

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 18, Stockwell Street Leek, Staffs.
(Tel.: Leek 1061)

REPORT

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	72,623 acres
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,363
Rateable Value at 31st March, 1960	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£130,360
Net product of 1d. rate for year ended 31/3/60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£535/16/9
Estimated Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20,500
Number of persons per acre	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.282

INDUSTRIES

The main occupations of the inhabitants are farming and mining, but a substantial number of persons are employed in the City of Stoke-on-Trent, in the silk mills in Leek, and in the quarries on the Derbyshire border.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	184	162	346
Illegitimate	7	4	11
	—	—	—
	191	166	357

Birthrate per 1,000 of the population — 17.41

Stillbirths	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	—	—	—
	1	2	3

Rate per 1,000 of the population — .15

Deaths (all ages)	M	F	TOTAL
	112	92	204

Death rate per 1,000 of the population — 9.95

Deaths of Infants (Under 1 year)	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	5	5	10
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	—	—	—
	5	5	10

Death rate per 1,000 live births — 28.01

TUBERCULOSIS

The Tuberculosis Register in the past has not reflected a true picture of the incidence of this disease. Each year new cases have been included in the register but due to movement from the area without notification, and also incomplete notification of recoveries, the register has included cases which should have been deleted.

During the year a new register has been compiled and this extensive task could not have been completed without the ready assistance given to me by the Tuberculosis Officer, Dr. D. S. Hayes, and by Mr. Skerratt of the North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary, and for this assistance I wish to record my grateful thanks.

As a result it is now possible to present to you the corrected figures as far as can be ascertained, and the position at 31st December 1960 is as follows:—

	Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Total (Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary)		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1960	56	38	94	6	7	13	62	45	107

For purposes of comparison I give below the details of new notifications for the five years — 1956-1960.

	Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Total (Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary)		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1960	1	1	2	—	—	—	1	1	2
1959	4	1	5	1	1	2	5	2	7
1958	5	3	8	—	—	—	5	3	8
1957	—	1	1	2	1	3	2	2	4
1956	3	4	7	2	1	3	5	5	10

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The figures below show the Incidence of Infectious Diseases in 1960 in comparison to those of the three preceding years:

	1960	1959	1958	1957
Measles	34	339	58	107
Whooping Cough	47	1	5	80
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	2	2	6	5
Scarlet Fever	13	26	15	14
Erysipelas	1	—	1	—
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis .	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	1	5	6	5
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	1	—	7
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	1	—
Acute Encephalitis (P.l.) ...	—	—	—	2
Food Poisoning	6	3	4	6
Tuberculosis — Pulmonary .	2	6	8	1
Tuberculosis—Non. Pul. ...	—	1	—	3
Total Cases	106	384	104	230

Incidence of Infectious Diseases

Parishes	Measles	Whooping Cough	Pneumonia	Scarlet Fever	Tuberculosis	Dysentery	Erysipelas	Food Poisoning
Alstonefield								
Bagnall								
Bradnop								
Butterton		4			1			
Endon and Stanley		10		3	1		1	
Fowfieldhead								
Grindan								
Heathylee								
Heoton		2						
Hollinsclough								
Horton		3						
Ilam	3							
Leekfrith								
Longnor								
Langsdan								5
Norton-in-the-Moors	31	26	2	10		1		
Onecote								
Quornford								
Rushton								
Sheen								
Tittesworth		2						1
Warslow and Elkstones								
Wetton								
Total	34	47	2	13	2	1	1	6

Months of Occurrence								
January		2		2				
February		2		2	1			
March		8	1	2				
April		5		1				
May		11		3				
June	18	6				1	1	
July	10	2		2	1			
August	1	3						1
September		6	1	1				4
October								
November								
December	5	2						1
Total	34	47	2	13	2	1	1	6

Age Incidence of Infectious Diseases

AGE GROUP	Measles		Whooping Cough		Pneumonia		Scarlet Fever		Erysipelas		Dysentery		Food Poisoning		Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year		2	1			1												
1 to 2 years	3	3	1	6	1													
3 to 4 years	7	3	5	5			7	3										
5—9 years	10	6	11	13				2										
10—14 years				4				1	1									
15—24 years			1								1		2	2	1			1
25—44 years																		
45—64 years																		
65 and over																		
Total (all ages)	20	14	19	28	1	1	7	6	1	—	1	—	2	4	1	1	—	—
TOTAL — Male and Female	34		47		2		13		1		1		6		2		—	

Causes of Death in Leek Rural District 1960

Causes of Death	Males	Females
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	1	—
Tuberculosis, Other	—	—
Syphilitic disease	1	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Meningococcal infection	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
Measles	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	6	3
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	6	—
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	2
Other malignant lymphatic neoplasms	9	6
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—
Diabetes	3	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	19	13
Coronary disease, angina	21	18
Hypertension with heart disease	1	1
Other heart disease	11	12
Other circulatory disease	6	6
Influenza	—	—
Pneumonia	2	4
Bronchitis	4	—
Other disease of respiratory system	1	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	—	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	3	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—
Congenital malformations	—	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	14
Motor Vehicle accidents	4	—
All other accidents	2	2
Suicide	2	—
Homicide and operations of war	—	—
Total — all causes	112	92

Sanitary inspection of the Area —

Summary of Visits

HOUSING:

(a)	Inspection for defects	57
(b)	Council House applicants	8
(c)	Moveable dwellings	61
(d)	Housing Inspections	101
(e)	Improvement Grant applicants	201
(f)	Rent Act	15
		443

GENERAL:

	Inspection of premises for nuisances	61
	Food premises	53
	Slaughterhouses and knacker's yard	767
	Drainage inspections	342
	Privy conversions	171
	Water supplies -- general	58
	Samples of water taken	35
	Shops	72
	Refuse and nightsoil collection and disposal	289
	Infectious diseases	14
	Fumigations and Infestations	6
	Rodent control	98
	Factories	22
	Petroleum stores	28
	Swimming pool	3
	Miscellaneous	36
	Ice Cream Shops	10
	Milk Supply	2
		2,510

NOTICES SERVED

1.	Informal Notices	109
	Statutory Notices	2
2.	(a) Number of Nuisances Remedied .	2
	(b) Number of defective dwellings rendered fit following service of Statutory and Informal notices ...	18

WATER SUPPLIES

EASTERN PARISHES WATER SUPPLY

Section "A" Part 1

Nine new connections were made during the year making a total of 175 properties connected as follows:--

	Domestic	Metered Supplies	Farm Troughs (Metered)
ALSTONEFIELD	56*	29	13
ILAM	15	10	8
WETTON	23	17	4
	94	56	25

(* One stand-tap serves 5 properties)

Section "A" Part 2

Progress with this, the major portion of the Eastern Parishes Water Scheme which was commenced in June 1959, continued during the year under review.

HORTON, LONGSDON AND RUDYARD WATER SCHEME

Eleven new connections were made during the year making a total of 201 properties connected as follows:

	Domestic	Metered Supplies	Farm Troughs (Metered)
ENDON & STANLEY	13	4	—
HORTON	97	37	4
LONGSDON	31	12	3
	141	53	7

SAMPLING OF WATER SUPPLIES

Thirty-four samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination and one for chemical analysis, the results of which are tabulated below: —

Source	Bacteriological Examination			Chemical Analysis		
	No. of Samples Taken	Fit	Unfit	No. of Samples Taken	Fit	Unfit
Well	1	—	1	—	—	—
Spring	23	6	17	1	1	—
Borehole	3	2	1	—	—	—
Stream	3	—	3	—	—	—
Public Mains	4	4	—	—	—	—
Total	34	12	22	1	1	—

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The early part of the year saw the completion of Brown Edge Sewerage Scheme (Lane Ends and Chapel Lane Areas) and also the extensions to the sewage disposal works at Baddeley Green and Norton Green.

The conditions prevailing at the Endon Sewage disposal works continue to give rise for concern as the ever-increasing overload is naturally reducing the efficiency of the plant with the consequent reduction in the quality of the effluent.

CONVERSION OF PRIVIES TO WATER CLOSETS

The Council makes contributions to property owners desirous of converting their toilets into water closets, the contribution being up to half the cost of the work with a maximum of £20. During the year 17 applications were approved, the Council's total contribution for these being £332 10s.

Further to the above under the Improvement Grant conditions, 26 conversions were carried out as part of the improvements.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse and nightsoil is collected from dwellings in every parish of the district by direct labour and tipping is carried out at the various village tips which are levelled and tidied from time to time.

The tip at Stockton Brook is now taking the bulk of the refuse and tipping is carried out without nuisance to the neighbourhood. A full time tip attendant levels and covers all refuse immediately and also keeps the tip rat-free. The site is comparatively dry and there is no smell nuisance. The method of tipping prevents overheating and any fires are quickly brought under control.

The work on nightsoil has been further reduced by privy conversions in the Light Oaks and Brown Edge areas.

During the year 289 visits and inspections in respect of Refuse Collection were made by the Public Health Officers.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 and 1948

NUMBER OF FACTORIES ON REGISTER.—

Mechanical	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Non-Mechanical	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS MADE 22

Only two factories are of any size.

A small number of outworkers are employed, chiefly by the Silk Manufacturers in Leek and are concerned with the finishing of wearing apparel.

HOUSING

Action taken under the Housing Acts during the year

Demolition and Closing Orders:

Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal action under the Housing Acts	6
Parts of Buildings closed	Nil
Closing Orders made under Housing Act, 1957	Nil

Repairs

Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit by informal action under the Public Health or Housing Acts	18
Number of houses where defects were remedied after service of formal notices under Public Health Acts	
(a) by owners	Nil
(b) by local authority	Nil
Number of houses made fit after service of formal notices under the Housing Acts.	
(a) by owners	Nil
(b) by local authority	Nil
Houses reconstructed, enlarged or improved and Demolition Orders revoked under Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954	Nil

Unfit houses in temporary use

Houses licensed for temporary occupation under Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954	Nil
--	-----

Purchase of houses by agreement

Houses purchased in Clearance Areas (other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders)	Nil
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New Houses Erected During the Year

(a) By Private Enterprise	126
(b) By Local Authority	Nil

126

Improvement Grants

	Discretionary Grants	Standard Grants
Number of Applications received during the year	30	17
Number of Applications in abeyance from previous year	2	—
Number of Improvement Grants made in respect of:—		
(a) Improvements to existing houses	29	17
(b) Conversion of buildings into living accommodation	—	—
Total cost of work involved qualifying for grant	£20,210.2.11	—
Total value of Improvement Grants approved	£8,630.0. 0	£1,370
Number of Improvement Grant Applications refused or withdrawn	—	—
Number of Applications in abeyance	1	—
Number of Improvement works completed during the year	20	9

Of the 46 grants approved 42 were in respect of owner occupied property and 4 in respect of tenanted property.

RODENT CONTROL

The Public Sewers and Refuse Tips were treated as necessary and the rat population was kept to a minimum.

The Council's Sewage Works were successfully treated on occasions throughout the year and the infestations kept under control.

The Council's free service for domestic premises was increasingly made use of and in appropriate cases as an economy measure, bait suitable for mice clearance was issued to householders.

PETROLEUM ACTS

Forty-eight licences were issued for the bulk storage of 72,850 gallons of Petroleum spirit.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

Carcases inspected	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	913	4	4787	511	—
Number inspected	913	4	4787	511	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
Whale carcasses condemned	—	—	2	—	—
Carcases of which same part or organ was condemned ...	108	—	687	3	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	11.83	—	14.35	.58	—
Tuberculosis only:					
Whale carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which same part or organ was condemned ...	14	—	—	8	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	1.53	—	—	1.56	—
Cysticercosis					
Carcases of which same part or organ was condemned ...	2	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	2	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

MEAT AND OFFAL CONDEMNED

Weight of Meat condemned due to: —

- (a) Tuberculosis 334 lbs.
 (b) Other diseases or conditions 2,700 lbs.

3,034 lbs.

OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED

24lb. Corned Beef; 14½oz. Tomatoes; 29lb. 6oz. Cooked Ham.

FOOD INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION

FOOD SHOPS AND PREPARING PREMISES

Eight-six premises are registered under the Act for the sale of Ice Cream.

Food Poisoning Outbreaks

Six cases of suspected food poisoning were notified during the year.

H. KELSO WATSON

Medical Officer of Health.

D. K. PEDLEY

Public Health Inspector

